IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) Process according to claim 1 characterised by the fact that stages c) to e) are carried out successively for each router.

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) Process according to claim 1 characterised by the fact that stages c) to e) are carried out simultaneously for each router.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended) Process according to claim 1 characterised by the fact that stage c) consists of taking into account the information that stage c) consists of taking into account the information contained in the acknowledgment of receipt sent by all the neighbouring routers to update the routing tables.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING CLAIMS:

- 6. Process according to claim 2 characterised by the fact that stages c) to e) are carried out successively for each router.
- 7. Process according to claim 2 characterised by the fact that stages c) to e) are carried out simultaneously for each router.
- 8. Process according to claim 4 characterised by the fact that stage c) consists of taking into account the information that stage c) consists of taking into account the information contained in the acknowledgment of receipt sent by all the neighbouring routers to update the routing tables.

REMARKS

The claims of the subject application have been amended to avoid multiple dependency. Favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claim 3 - 5 have been amended as follows:

- 3. Process according to claim 1 or 2 characterised by the fact that stages c) to e) are carried out successively for each router.
- 4. Process according to claim 1 or 2 characterised by the fact that stages c) to e) are carried out simultaneously for each router.
- 5. Process according to which any of claims 1 to 4 characterised by the fact that stage c) consists of taking into account the information that stage c) consists of taking into account the information contained in the acknowledgment of receipt sent by all the neighbouring routers to update the routing tables.

Claims 6 - 8 have been added.